Appln No. 10/621,052
Amendment

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. - 6. (Cancelled)

7. (Previously presented) A method of tuning a drum, comprising:

rotating a tension rod using a drum key that includes a shaft with a socket opening in one end and a handle connected to the shaft by a unidirectional bearing;

wherein the rotation of the tension rod further comprises:

inserting a portion of the tension rod inside the socket opening of the drum key;

holding the handle of drum key stationary; and

simultaneously rotating the shaft of the drum key.

8. - 10. (Cancelled)

9. (New) A method of tuning a drum including at least one tension rod having a terminal end using a drum key that includes:

a shaft including at least a first opening designed to engage the terminal end of a tension rod;

a handle that is connected to the shaft by a unidirectional bearing; and

wherein the unidirectional bearing constrains the handle to rotate in a first direction of rotation relative to the shaft;

the method comprising:

engaging the first opening of the shaft of the drum key with the terminal end of the tuning rod;

rotating the tuning rod and shaft in a second direction of rotation opposite the first direction of rotation by rotating the handle of the drum key in the second direction; and

rotating the handle relative to the tuning rod and shaft by rotating the handle in the first direction.

10. (New) The method of claim 9, wherein the unidirectional bearing is a cam clutch unidirectional bearing.

11. (New) The method of claim 10, wherein the unidirectional bearing comprises:

a ring including at least one elongated cavity including a ramp;

a needle roller located within the cavity;

a spring located in the cavity;

wherein the spring is configured to press the needle roller against the ramp.

12. (New) The method of claim 9, wherein:

the first opening configured to engage the terminal end of a tuning rod is located at a first end of the shaft; and

the shaft includes a second opening configured to engage the terminal end of a tuning rod that is located at a second end of the shaft.

13. (New) The method of claim 12 further comprising:

disengaging the first opening in the shaft of the drum key with the terminal end of the tuning rod;

engaging the second opening in the shaft of the drum key with the terminal end of the tuning rod;

rotating the tuning rod and shaft in the first direction of rotation opposite the first direction of rotation by rotating the handle of the drum key in the first direction; and

rotating the handle relative to the tuning rod and shaft by rotating the handle in the second direction.

14. (New) The method of claim 13, wherein the unidirectional bearing is a cam clutch unidirectional bearing.

15. (New) The method of claim 14, wherein the unidirectional bearing comprises:

a ring including at least one elongated cavity including a ramp;

a needle roller located within the cavity;

a spring located in the cavity;

wherein the spring is configured to press the needle roller against the ramp.

16. (New) The method of claim 9, wherein the amount of play in the second direction of rotation tolerated by the unidirectional bearing is not significant in the tuning of a drum.